



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 28 June 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- Aero–News Network reports police in Tulsa, Oklahoma, arrested a man Monday, June 25, for pointing a laser at a law enforcement helicopter, a crime that could mean up to five years in prison. (See item [17](#))
- The Associated Press reports a February incident in which noxious fumes were released in the Spokane region's NorthTown Mall is being investigated by the FBI as a possible incident of domestic terrorism. (See item [42](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

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**Other:** [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 27, Miami Herald* — **Two top U.S. oil firms say no to Venezuela's Chávez.** Two of the world's largest oil companies, U.S.–based ExxonMobil and ConocoPhillips, refused to sign an agreement with the Venezuelan government to split their heavy crude operations in the Faja region in the heart of Venezuela, the Venezuelan government announced on Tuesday, June 26. "In the case of ExxonMobil and ConocoPhillips, their participation in the Faja is over," Venezuelan Energy Minister Rafael Ramírez announced during a signing ceremony for those who agreed to grant the government majority stake over their fields, which lie above the Orinoco River about 125 miles southeast of the country's capital, Caracas. The announcement

came after weeks of talks between the government and several foreign operators in the 600,000 barrels-per-day Faja region. U.S.-based Chevron, Britain's British Petroleum, France's Total and Norway's Statoil all signed with the government, granting it majority stake in the fields that have an estimated value of \$30 billion. PetroCanada joined ExxonMobil and ConocoPhillips in their dissent and is leaving Venezuela altogether, Ramírez said. The move is not expected to upset production in the short term but could mean the end of both U.S. companies' longtime presence in Venezuela, the world's sixth largest producer and fourth largest supplier to the United States.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/127/story/152433.html>

2. *June 26, New York Times* — **U.S. creates three centers for biofuel research.** The Department of Energy (DOE) is creating three bioenergy research centers to find new ways to turn plants into fuel. The three centers, which the department described as start-up companies with \$125 million each in capital, will be in Oak Ridge, TN; Madison, WI; and near Berkeley, CA. They will involve numerous universities, national laboratories and private companies. The goal of the centers is to bring new technologies to market within five years. The bioenergy centers will focus on finding naturally occurring microbes that can break down lignin, a component of plants and trees, to give access to the material inside, called cellulose. The cellulose can be converted into ethanol or other liquid fuels, like butanol and biodiesel. said Raymond Orbach, the under secretary for science at the Energy Department. DOE announced Monday that it would help establish laboratories in Texas and Massachusetts to test designs for wind turbine blades up to 300 feet long, about twice the length of blades now in common use.

DOE press release: <http://www.energy.gov/news/5172.htm>

Source: [http://news.com.com/U.S.+creates+three+centers+for+biofuel+research/2100-11392\\_3-6193325.html?tag=nefd.top](http://news.com.com/U.S.+creates+three+centers+for+biofuel+research/2100-11392_3-6193325.html?tag=nefd.top)

3. *June 26, Chronicle Herald (Canada)* — **Taking aim at copper thieves; spray will help utility identify wire.** Nova Scotia Power in Canada demonstrated Monday, June 21, how it will use the new technology, known as DataDot, to combat copper theft, which has risen dramatically since 2006. Each DataDot is outfitted with an electronic code identifying the owner of the copper. There have already been 70 thefts from Nova Scotia Power sites so far this year, compared to a total of 85 thefts for all of 2006, said Garry Theriault, the utility's manager of transmission maintenance. Nova Scotia Power is applying the technology to all of its roughly 300 substations across the province, spraying hundreds of meters of wire inside and outside stations. Theriault said the process will cost thousands of dollars. The cost of replacing damaged electrical grounding systems alone at substations, which runs upwards of \$10,000, would likely justify the cost of the technology. Theriault said Nova Scotia Power's major concern is that thieves are moving their activities closer to the metro region, where a major substation was vandalized last week. New Brunswick Power has also signed up for the microdot technology, Hydro One in Ontario is launching a pilot project and B.C. Hydro has been using it for several months.

Source: <http://thechronicleherald.ca/Business/843642.html>

4. *June 26, Forbes* — **Spanish power firm Iberdrola buys into U.S.** Spanish power company Iberdrola has bought Energy East, the New Gloucester, ME-based utility supplier for a hefty \$4.5 billion in cash, but thinks it is a price worth paying for both a proper foothold in the U.S. market, and an opportunity to avail itself of tax incentives in the renewables market. The deal

has yet to get the approval of Energy East shareholders, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and state agencies. Through its purchase of Scottish Power, Iberdrola already has ownership of Portland, Oregon-based PPM Energy, which operates several American wind farms. But in order to take advantage of the tax incentives available to companies involved in renewable energy, Iberdrola must make its profits in the U.S. Iberdrola has said it will allow Energy East's subsidiaries to continue to operate under their current names. One of the subsidiaries, Central Maine Power, delivers 80.0% of Maine's electricity. Others include Berkshire Gas, Connecticut Natural Gas, New York State Electric and Gas, Rochester Gas and Electric Corp, and Southern Connecticut Gas. Iberdrola is not the first European energy company to take advantage of the cheap U.S. dollar. In April Italian Eni bought Dominion Resource's Gulf of Mexico operations for \$4.8 billion.

Source: [http://www.forbes.com/markets/2007/06/26/iberdrola-energy-ea-st-markets-equity-cx\\_vr\\_0626markets07.html](http://www.forbes.com/markets/2007/06/26/iberdrola-energy-ea-st-markets-equity-cx_vr_0626markets07.html)

5. *June 26, Houston Chronicle* — **Landfills increasingly become sources of power.** Local landfill could soon play a bigger role in keeping the lights on at home. Houston's Waste Management is expected to announce a major expansion of a program that collects methane gas from its landfills and converts it into electricity. Under the program, the nation's biggest landfill operator plans to spend \$400 million over the next five years to build power plants at 60 additional landfills around the country, including several sites in Texas. Added up, the new plants will be able to produce 230 megawatts of electricity a year, bringing Waste Management's total power generation capacity from landfills to 700 megawatts, enough to power about 700,000 homes. Turning waste gas into energy is nothing new. But trash collection firms are seeing more opportunity in the business now that energy prices are high and government incentives are encouraging production of alternatives.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/4923386.html>

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

6. *June 27, Sun-Sentinel (FL)* — **Fort Lauderdale chemical spill sends two to hospital.** Two men were treated after inhaling pool chemicals that leaked when a truck crashed on Ocean Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, FL, on Wednesday, June 27, authorities said. A worker from Infinity Swimming Pools crashed his truck into the corner of a concrete barrier at the 2400 block of North Ocean Boulevard. Officers said they were unsure why the vehicle crashed. Almost 85 gallons of liquid chlorine and five gallons of muriatic acid spilled into the street. The mixture created a vapor that caused respiratory problems for the driver and a construction worker who arrived to help. Authorities blocked lanes in both directions and diverted traffic for about an hour.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/broward/sfl-627chlorine.0.2084810.story?coll=sfla-news-broward>

7. *June 26, Associated Press* — **Industrial fire sends huge column of toxic smoke over Southern California plastics yard.** A roaring fire in an industrial yard sent a huge column of toxic black smoke blowing across Southern California's Riverside County on Tuesday, June 26. The fire burned furiously in Unlimited Plastics Inc., a large commercial yard filled with crates,

lumber, barrels and trash. Plumes were blowing toward a residential area but no evacuations were ordered. At least 50 firefighters poured streams of water and foam onto the site. Authorities closed a major freeway interchange, choking rush hour traffic for miles, California Highway Patrol Officer Maurice Walker said.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/riverside/20070626-2011-industrialfire.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *June 27, Aviation Week* — **Analysts: Bid protests problem in acquisitions.** With many defense industry analysts predicting that contract protests will be as common to military acquisition as contract awards themselves, the concern now is whether the protests indicate a deeper problem in Pentagon purchasing — and what needs to be done about it. For now, some analysts say, the Pentagon and contractors may need to include the protest timeframe as part of the overall contract schedule. "We are now assuming that any contract award above \$500 million will be protested by the losing bidder or bidders," said Michael Lewis, senior vice president at BB&T Capital Markets. The analysts' concerns come in the wake of the recent protest by Raytheon against the contract award to the L-3/Alenia team for the Joint Cargo Aircraft by the Army and Air Force. Meanwhile, the Government Accountability Office is considering a second protest for the Air Force's combat, search and rescue helicopter fleet replacement. "The preponderance of protests is symptomatic of an acquisition system that's collapsing under its own weight," said Loren Thompson of the Lexington Institute. What the Department of Defense (DoD) needs to do, those analysts said, is make the best moves early on in the contracting process.

Source: <http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/BID062707.xml&headline=Analysts:%20Bid%20Protests%20Problem%20In%20Acquisitions&channel=defense>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *June 27, Associated Press* — **Visa, Wells Fargo to test mobile payment.** Visa USA is teaming up with Wells Fargo & Co. in an experiment aimed at transforming mobile telephones into electronic wallets. As part of a pilot program announced Wednesday, June 27, up to 50 Wells Fargo employees soon will begin paying for some products and services with specially equipped phones instead of credit and debit cards. If those tests are successful, Wells Fargo then plans to ask 300 to 500 of its current customers to sample the mobile payment platform, which Visa began building at the beginning of this year. Wells Fargo's customer tests won't begin until autumn, meaning Visa's mobile payment system won't be ready for widespread usage until next year at the earliest. Going mobile is a high priority for Visa and banks such as Wells Fargo that issue its cards because increasingly sophisticated wireless phones are opening up new opportunities to increase the frequency of revenue—generating electronic payments. Several major banks, including Wells Fargo, Citibank, Wachovia, also are developing new ways for customers to use their mobile phones to check account balances, transfer funds and

pay bills.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/27/AR2007062700083.html>

10. *June 27, eWeek* — **Has pump-and-dump spam been dumped?** E-mail and Internet content security provider Marshal on Tuesday, June 26 announced that "pump-and-dump" spam has dropped significantly, though not all security vendors agree. Marshal researchers say stock spam now represents five percent of all spam as compared with 50 percent in February. During the past quarter, the amount of pump-and-dump spam, a type of financial fraud involving the artificial inflation of a stock's price so it can be sold at a higher value, has averaged around 30 percent of all spam messages. However, in the past four weeks, the Marshal Threat Research and Content Engineering team saw the volume of stock spam drop to 5.1 percent, the lowest point it has seen in 10 months. Bradley Anstis of Marshal could not offer an answer as to why stock spam has declined, but listed improvements in spam filtering technology, law enforcement operations, and the overuse of stock spam leading to declining returns for spammers as possible reasons. However, security officials at Sophos are not so quick to declare any drop-off. Sophos put the amount of pump-and-dump spam at 25 percent, a figure Graham Cluley of Sophos said has not fluctuated much recently.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2151221,00.asp>

11. *June 26, VNUNet* — **No quick tech fix for phishing.** A senior researcher at RSA Security has told vnunet.com that there is no technological solution for phishing. Uriel Maimon, senior researcher in the office of the chief technology officer at RSA, said that technology solutions could never provide a cure for phishing and online fraud because technical fixes could always be subverted. Such measures also depend on the end user to operate and, as such, are vulnerable to error or incompetence.

Source: <http://www.channelweb.co.uk/vnunet/news/2192854/technology-solution-phishing>

12. *June 26, SC Magazine* — **Two porn spammers convicted on CAN-SPAM, conspiracy, fraud and money laundering charges.** Two 41-year-old men were convicted Monday, June 25, for their connection to a global mass pornographic spamming operation that resulted in hundreds of thousands of complaints from AOL customers, federal authorities said. Jeffrey Kilbride of Venice, CA and James R. Schaffer of Paradise Valley, AZ were convicted on eight counts stemming from the spam business the two men helped organize and run in 2004. The defendants were convicted of two violations under the federal CAN-SPAM Act of 2003 and additionally found guilty of conspiracy, fraud and money laundering, authorities said. "Through their international spamming operation, these defendants made millions of dollars by sending unwanted sexually explicit e-mails to hundreds of thousands of innocent people," Assistant U.S. Attorney General Alice Fisher said. The junk mail messages advertised commercial Internet porn sites, and the two men earned a commission for each recipient who visited one of the sites. Kilbride and Schaffer also established bank accounts in Mauritius and the Isle of Man to shield themselves from U.S. law enforcement scrutiny. A third partner, Jennifer Clason, was convicted in March 2006 for her involvement. The three defendants were the first people to be tried under the new spam act.

Source: <http://scmagazine.com/us/news/article/666962/two-porn-spammers-convicted-can-spam-conspiracy-fraud-money-laundering-charges/>



13. *June 26, Websense Security Labs* — **Phishing Alert: Countrywide Bank.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of a phishing attack that targets customers of Countrywide Bank, which is based in California. Users receive a spoofed e-mail message asking them to complete a compulsory online form. The e-mail provides a link to a phishing site which attempts to collect personal and account information.  
Source: <http://www.websense.com/securitylabs/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=783>
14. *June 25, Navy Newsstand* — **Navy Web portal users advised to beware of scam artists' phishing e-mails.** The Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, is warning users of the Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) Web portal to be alert for an Internet phishing scam. Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) issued an alert Thursday, June 21 to inform network managers and NKO users of their potential vulnerability to this scheme. The current phishing scheme claims to be from the NKO administration department and advises users of a non-existent server outage. The phony e-mail directs NKO users to a false mirror site in order to obtain users' legitimate log-on information. NKO users should not reply to the phishing e-mail or click on any associated links or buttons in the e-mail/false NAVADMIN.  
Source: [http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story\\_id=30234](http://www.news.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=30234)

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

15. *June 27, Reuters* — **Southwest Air to slow capacity growth.** Southwest Airlines Co., facing rising costs and tougher competition, plans to trim its expansion through next year because of a slowing U.S. economy and softening travel demand, its chief executive said on Wednesday, June 27. Southwest, the leading U.S. discount carrier, intends to adjust its route schedule and reduce its planned fleet expansion by 15 aircraft, CEO Gary Kelly said during a company conference with analysts. Southwest, which is often credited with inventing the low-cost airline model, has gotten off to a slow start this year, buffeted by tougher competition, higher fuel costs, and softening demand for air travel. The company, which flies only Boeing 737 aircraft, may return leased planes, defer deliveries, or sell some jets to slow its fleet growth. Slower growth could help Southwest reduce capital expenses and lower operating costs, which have been rising as its fuel hedges expire and because the company pays some of the highest wages in the industry.  
Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/rb/070627/southwest\\_growth.html?.v=2](http://biz.yahoo.com/rb/070627/southwest_growth.html?.v=2)
16. *June 27, Associated Press* — **Ohio offers Continental \$16 million to expand Cleveland hub.** Ohio has offered \$16 million in incentives to Continental Airlines in an effort to land an expansion that would add flights and an estimated 700 jobs at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. The state previously pledged a \$900,000 grant to Houston-based Continental to help pay for new equipment and machinery. The incentives would be a combination of grants, loans, tax credits, and hiring services. Continental estimates the expansion of its Cleveland hub would cost \$50 million. The site competes with the airline's other hubs in Houston and Newark, NJ, for capital improvements. "We appreciate the incentives offered by the state of Ohio, and those incentives are certainly something we are considering as we make a decision on growth of our Cleveland hub," Continental spokesperson Mary Clark said in a statement Monday, June 25.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-27-ohio-conti\\_nental\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-27-ohio-conti_nental_N.htm)

17. *June 27, Aero-News Network* — **Man arrested for pointing laser at law enforcement helicopter.** Police in Tulsa, OK, arrested a man Monday, June 25, for pointing a laser at a law enforcement helicopter. The officers were in the air searching for an auto theft suspect. After being "painted" by police, that suspect fled. The helicopter followed the fleeing car until ground units were able to locate it, according to the Associated Press. "During the search the helicopter was painted with a green laser," a police report says. Zachary Carpenter, 23, was found at his residence with a high intensity green laser in his car and was promptly arrested, according to police. It doesn't matter if you are a terrorist or a prankster -- if you shine laser pointers at airplanes, you could be facing up to five years in prison. The National Transportation Safety Board has documented two cases where pilots sustained actual injury to their eyes and were incapacitated during critical phases of a flight.

Source: <http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=aa723693-ae16-4196-b1e0-bb18f447a98e>

18. *June 26, USA TODAY* — **Northwest cancels more than 10 percent of flights again.** For the fourth-straight day, Tuesday, June 26, Northwest Airlines cancelled more than 10 percent of its flights because of a pilot shortage, fueling concerns that the situation could be repeated in late July and late August. A new clock for Northwest pilots begins Monday, presumably giving the carrier greater ability to fly its full schedule for awhile. The Federal Aviation Administration limits pilots to 1,000 flight hours a year and, in most cases, 100 hours a month. But Northwest's labor contract allows pilots to schedule up to 90 hours a month, with some additional voluntary overtime. Northwest on Tuesday issued a statement repeating its explanation from Monday, blaming the high cancellation rates on bad weather in the East and Midwest earlier this month. That bad weather disrupted flight operations and pushed many pilots over their monthly duty time limits, the airline said. Kit Darby, who operates Air Inc., an aviation careers placement and advisory firm, says bad weather can affect carriers differently. But Darby also says Northwest management's decisions to keep pilot staffing thin when it recently emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy has left it vulnerable.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-26-northwest-more-cancels-usat\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-06-26-northwest-more-cancels-usat_N.htm)

19. *June 26, Des Moines Register (IA)* — **Derailment closes main Union Pacific line.** A harrowing collision of two Union Pacific (UP) Railroad trains near Tama, IA, on Tuesday afternoon, June 26, produced a massive coal spill as well as wrecked cars and mangled track, but no serious injuries. "We'll have to reroute traffic for a while until we can cleanup and make repairs, but thankfully there were no serious injuries," said UP spokesperson James Barnes from railroad headquarters in Omaha. A crewman in one of the locomotives was injured by flying glass when rail cars slammed into the front of the locomotive, but the injuries were not serious. Other crewmembers walked away from the wreck. The accident will interrupt traffic across UP's main line that extends from Wyoming through Omaha and Boone, Ames, Marshalltown, and on to Clinton and Chicago. The eastbound coal train was bound for a customer in eastern Iowa, Barnes said. The eastbound coal train had slipped the rails, falling to the side and clipping the side of a westbound freight train moving in the opposite direction on the double-track section of the line.

Source: <http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2007>

20. *June 25, CBS2Chicago* — **More security breaches found at O'Hare.** Chicago's O'Hare International Airport is one of the busiest airports in the nation, and may be one of the most vulnerable. CBS2 investigators have learned that 47 more employee access badges are missing, bringing the total we've discovered to 3,807 in the biggest security failure involving access badges ever to be exposed. Airport employees are allowed to go through a back gate. All they have to do is show their access badge. They are not searched. Last month, Marcia Pinkston — fired for complaining about security — told CBS 2 about other security failures, including employees sharing security codes or "piggybacking" by following someone through open doors to gain access to secure areas.

Source: [http://cbs2chicago.com/homepage/local\\_story\\_176224625.html](http://cbs2chicago.com/homepage/local_story_176224625.html)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

21. *June 26, KMBC Kansas City (MO)* — **Suspicious package injures Hallmark worker.** A worker at Hallmark Cards is recovering from an injury received on Tuesday, June 26, when he handled a package authorities said was coated with formaldehyde. Kansas City Fire Department battalion Chief Joe Vitale said the worker was moving packages on the company's loading dock around 10 a.m. CDT when he handled a package that was wet. He soon developed a reaction to the chemical on his arms and neck. Vitale said the formaldehyde didn't come from the package itself but leaked onto it from elsewhere. He said authorities are trying to track down the delivery truck to see if they can find the leaking package and check the driver for injuries.

Source: <http://www.thekansascitychannel.com/news/13571790/detail.html>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

22. *June 27, Agricultural Research Service* — **Scientists identify potato pest.** The pale potato cyst nematode (*Globodera pallida*) has been positively identified by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists and cooperators in soil at a potato processing plant in eastern Idaho. This is the first time this pest — now of great concern in Europe — has been found in the U.S. The source of the infected soil at the processing plant was later traced to a few potato fields in Idaho, according to the researchers. Existing molecular tests are very good at distinguishing *G. pallida* from golden nematode (*G. rostochiensis*), due to previous research in Europe. However, scientists cannot readily use anatomical differences to distinguish *G. pallida* from another close relative called the tobacco cyst nematode (*G. tabacum*), a nematode already in the U.S. Reliable molecular tests to identify *G. tabacum* have not been widely validated, largely because tobacco cyst nematode is not widespread in Europe. Researchers developed a new diagnostic test that may become useful in the future. In the new assay, specific PCR primers recognize minor differences in the DNA sequences of each nematode species, resulting in a clear, positive test result when *G. tabacum* is present.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>



23. *June 26, Reuters* — **China pig disease caused by new strain.** A pig disease that swept through 10 provinces in China decimating the swine population and ramping up pork prices was caused by a new and highly pathogenic strain of blue ear disease, Chinese scientists said. The epidemic spread to almost half of China in 2006 and was atypical of previous outbreaks of the disease, the scientists said. It affected more than two million pigs and killed 400,000 of them, they said. However, China's top vet said earlier this month that a variation of the Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS), or blue ear disease, killed a million pigs in 2006 and more than 18,000 hogs in the first five months of 2007. The scientists said the new virus strain may be responsible for several new and unusually severe symptoms, even in adult pigs. This new virus strain spread very quickly, resulting in "unparalleled large-scale outbreaks" and caused high fever (40–42 degrees Celsius), shivering and a reddish rash brought on by congestion in the blood capillaries, the scientists said. Autopsies confirmed that multiple organs, including the brain, spleen, lymph nodes, liver, heart, tonsil and kidney were infected.  
PRRS information: <http://www.prrs.org/>  
Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/HKG268196.htm>

24. *June 26, Associated Press* — **Swine fever widespread in Georgia.** African swine fever, a contagious viral disease in pigs, is widespread across Georgia, a United Nations food agency said Tuesday, June 26, urging a national campaign to control the movement of animals. By mid-June, 52 out of 65 districts in the country were suspected of being affected by the disease, with more than 30,000 pigs dead and a total of 22,000 pigs culled, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said. The disease causes fever and death in pigs. "With rapid and appropriate control measures, it may be possible that confined pig farms and even some districts can be kept free of infection," the FAO said. "However, without such interventions, there is a real risk that Georgia may lose most of its pig population to African swine fever in the coming months."  
African Swine Fever information: [http://www.oie.int/eng/maladies/fiches/a\\_A120.htm](http://www.oie.int/eng/maladies/fiches/a_A120.htm)  
Source: <http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.aspx?feed=AP&Date=20070626&ID=7087023>

25. *June 25, Monitor (TX)* — **Parasites are forcing quarantines of Rio Grande Valley livestock.** As cattle are herded off trailers and into the pens at R.Y. Livestock Sales, Texas and federal inspectors pat the animals down, rubbing their backs, legs and stomachs, feeling for the fever tick. The disease-carrying bug is on the rise in South Texas, spurred by an increase in brushland and subsequently more carriers — which range from deer and cattle to illegal immigrants, ranchers and agriculture officials say. So far, the problem has hit Zapata County the hardest, sidelining more than two dozen ranches in that area and extending its reach down into Starr County. A half dozen ranches in Starr County have been quarantined because ticks have been found on cattle on the property as of the end of May, according to Texas Animal Health Commission. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officials won't say the problem has reached an epidemic level, but admit that it is growing, said Ed Bauer, head of the USDA's Tick Riders, a group of agriculture inspectors who work Rio Grande ranches searching for the blood suckers. The bug can have disastrous impacts on ranchers. Fever ticks sometimes carry a nasty cattle disease that weakens cattle and eventually kills 70 percent of every animal infected.  
Source: [http://www.themonitor.com/news/cattle\\_3338\\_article.html/tick\\_county.html](http://www.themonitor.com/news/cattle_3338_article.html/tick_county.html)

## **Food Sector**

**26. *June 27, Associated Press* — China shuts 180 food factories.** China has closed 180 food factories after inspectors found industrial chemicals being used in products from candy to seafood, state media said Wednesday, June 27. The closures came amid a nationwide crackdown on shoddy and dangerous products launched in December that also uncovered use of recycled or expired food, the China Daily said. Formaldehyde, illegal dyes, and industrial wax were found being used to make candy, pickles, crackers and seafood, it said, citing Han Yi, an official with the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, which is responsible for food safety. "These are not isolated cases," Han, director of the administration's quality control and inspection department, was quoted as saying. Han's admission was significant because the administration has said in the past that safety violations were the work of a few rogue operators, a claim which is likely part of a strategy to protect China's billions of dollars of food exports.

Source: [http://www.cnn.com/2007/WORLD/asiapcf/06/27/china.tainted.food.ap/index.html?section=cnn\\_latest](http://www.cnn.com/2007/WORLD/asiapcf/06/27/china.tainted.food.ap/index.html?section=cnn_latest)

**27. *June 26, Associated Press* — South Korea: U.S. beef companies can export.** South Korea lifted a suspension on imports of American beef from two U.S. meat companies Tuesday, June 26, after the U.S. confirmed that three shipments meant for domestic consumption were exported by mistake, officials said. South Korea shut its doors to American beef in December 2003 after an outbreak of mad cow disease in the U.S. It partially reopened its market last year, but agreed to accept only boneless meat from cattle under 30 months old. Seoul in late May and early June suspended imports from six facilities of two U.S. meat companies for exporting beef that was intended for U.S. domestic consumption.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/business/4920405.html>

## **Water Sector**

**28. *June 27, San Diego Union-Tribune* — Water operator pleads guilty.** The operator of a backcountry water system pleaded guilty Tuesday, June 26, to a felony charge in connection with allegations that he falsely assured county officials the system's water was safe to drink. The charge against Nazar Najor, operator of the 138-customer water system in Live Oak Springs, CA, will be reduced to a misdemeanor if he installs a new well and seals a contaminated well or converts it to irrigation use. County officials said the case against Najor was the first time a small water system operator faced a felony charge in connection with operation of a system. In late October 2005, Najor submitted a lab report to the county Department of Environmental Health showing that the water system was free from bacteria. Soon after Najor submitted the report, the lab separately submitted a report that showed the presence of total coliform bacteria in the water. Total coliform is not necessarily dangerous, but it indicates contamination of a water system.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20070627-9999-1m27najor.html>

## **Public Health Sector**

29. *June 26, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **FDA clears for marketing first quick test for malaria.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared for marketing the Binax NOW Malaria Test, the first authorized U.S. rapid test for malaria, a mosquito-borne disease caused by a parasite. The test is intended for laboratory use. Standard laboratory tests for malaria require identifying parasites in a blood sample under a microscope, a difficult task that requires training and experience. The Binax NOW test is significantly faster and easier to use. Results are available in 15 minutes after a few drops of whole blood are placed on a dipstick. The test can also differentiate the most dangerous malaria parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum*, from less virulent malaria parasites. Results still need to be confirmed using standard microscopic evaluation.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01659.html>

30. *June 26, Agence France–Presse* — **Germany confirms second bird flu outbreak.** German health officials on Tuesday, June 26, confirmed that the potentially lethal H5N1 strain of bird flu had been found in wild swans in the east of the country, the second such incident there in a week. The three birds were found dead in the area around Frohburg, near Leipzig, second incidence of the feared virus in a week, the Friedrich Loeffler Institute reported. The discovery followed the confirmation on Sunday, June 24, of six cases of H5N1 in wild birds found dead near Nuremberg, 120 miles further south.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070626/hl\\_afp/healthflugermany\\_070626190833;\\_ylt=AnJHlRicOqRLL7dRsFcopB2JOrgF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070626/hl_afp/healthflugermany_070626190833;_ylt=AnJHlRicOqRLL7dRsFcopB2JOrgF)

31. *June 24, New Mexico Department of Health* — **New Mexico tests ability to receive medical supplies during public health emergency.** New Mexico Department of Health helped the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) test its ability to deliver medical supplies to the state during a public health emergency. The Department of Health successfully unloaded 50 tons of medical pharmaceuticals within about an hour of receiving them. The full-day exercise involved the CDC delivering a package of medicine and medical supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile to one of New Mexico's established distribution sites within 12 hours of determining need. State workers unloaded the supplies. In a public health emergency, the Department would then distribute the medicine and medical supplies to about 150 distribution locations, where people would be directed to receive them. The Strategic National Stockpile contains large quantities of medicine and medical supplies to protect the public if there is a public health emergency, such as a terrorist attack or flu outbreak that is severe enough to drain local supplies.

Source: <http://www.emaxhealth.com/24/13359.html>

## **Government Sector**

32. *June 27, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-897T: Capitol Visitor Center: Update on Status of Project's Schedule and Cost as of June 27, 2007 (Testimony).** Since the April 24, 2007, Capitol Visitor Center (CVC) hearing, the project's construction has progressed, and the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) is still projecting a June 27, 2008, completion date. Although the CVC team has avoided further delays in the project's critical path (i.e., the work on the fire alarm system), activities on most of the project's near-critical paths have fallen behind schedule, and further delays are possible. During the past two months, the CVC team has made progress on the project's heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning system, interior wall stone and ceiling installation, and other interior and exterior construction work. However, problems have occurred in such near-critical activities as the ceiling close-ins in the upper level security and orientation lobbies and elements of the House and Senate expansion spaces, and a number of risks to the project's schedule remain. At the November 15, 2006, CVC hearing, GAO reported that the total cost of the entire CVC project at completion is likely to be about \$592 million without an allowance for risks and uncertainties, and over \$600 million with such an allowance. Because the project's expected completion date remains uncertain, GAO has not updated these estimates.  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-897T>

33. *June 26, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-922T: Wildland Fire: Management Improvements Could Enhance Federal Agencies' Efforts to Contain the Costs of Fighting Fires (Testimony).** Annual appropriations to prepare for and respond to wildland fires have increased substantially over the past decade, in recent years totaling about \$3 billion. The Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture and four agencies within the Department of the Interior (Interior) are responsible for responding to wildland fires on federal lands. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) determined what steps federal agencies have taken to (1) address key operational areas that could help contain the costs of preparing for and responding to wildland fires and (2) improve their management of their cost-containment efforts. This testimony is based on GAO's June 2007 report, *Wildland Fire Management: Lack of Clear Goals or a Strategy Hinders Federal Agencies' Efforts to Contain the Costs of Fighting Fires* (GAO-07-655). In its report, GAO recommended that the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior take several steps to improve their management of cost-containment efforts in preparation for the 2008 fire season. The Forest Service and Interior generally disagreed with the report's findings, stating that GAO did not accurately portray some of the agencies' actions to contain wildland fire costs; they neither agreed nor disagreed with the report's recommendations.  
Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07922thigh.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-922T>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

34. *June 26, Associated Press* — **Broadcasters in Illinois report glitches with emergency system.** Radio listeners and television viewers across Illinois got some unexpected — and unexplained — interruptions Tuesday morning, June 26. Tones from the Emergency Alert System were inadvertently broadcast on radio and TV stations, sporadically interrupting programming. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) says in a statement it is

installing a new satellite warning system and that the tones were part of a test. The sounds were intended to be heard internally but were accidentally broadcast instead. Broadcasters said in addition to the alerts, their signals were scrambled and other stations were being broadcast on their frequencies. Officials say there was no emergency, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency was not told that the test would be conducted.

Source: <http://wkbt.com/Global/story.asp?S=6714214>

35. *June 25, New York Times* — **Rescue robots put to the test.** It was another perfect day in Disaster City, TX. Two trains, carrying passengers and dangerous chemicals, were jackknifed. An office tower and parking garage had pancaked and black smoke rose in the distance. Rescue robots rolled or hovered over the carnage for several days at the training center, transmitting images, sniffing for poisons, and hauling out dummies in an exercise to grade robots in rescue work. The military is already using some of the robots in Iraq to spy out insurgent ambushes and to detect and remove explosive devices. Opened in 1997, the 52-acre Disaster City of wreckage and rubble is operated by Texas A&M University's Texas Engineering Extension Service for the training of the state's emergency response forces and firefighters and rescue workers from all over the world. The robotics exercise, the fourth in two years to be sponsored by the Science and Technology Directorate at the Department of Homeland Security and the National Institute of Standards and Technology at the Commerce Department, has a complex task: finding ways of evaluating performance of robots so that they can be fairly compared. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/25/washington/25robots.html?r=1&ref=science&oref=slogin>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

36. *June 27, Sophos* — **Malicious spam posing as fake vulnerability patch leads to Trojan horse infection.** Experts at Sophos have warned of a widespread attempt to infect e-mail users by sending them a warning about a bogus Microsoft security patch. The e-mails, which have the subject line "Microsoft Security Bulletin MS07-0065" pretend to come from Microsoft, and claim that a zero-day vulnerability has been discovered in the Microsoft Outlook e-mail program. They go on to warn recipients that "more than 100,000 machines" have been exploited via the vulnerability in order to promote medications such as Viagra and Cialis. Users are encouraged by the e-mail to download a patch which, it is claimed, will fix the problem and prevent them from becoming attacked by hackers. However, clicking on the link contained inside the e-mail does not take computer users to Microsoft's Website but one of many compromised Websites hosting a Trojan horse.

Source: [http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2007/06/bogu\\_smspatch.html](http://www.sophos.com/pressoffice/news/articles/2007/06/bogu_smspatch.html)

37. *June 27, Federal Computer Week* — **Increase in cyber threats spurs government, industry.** A reinforced cadre of federal cybercrime prosecutors and technicians at the third annual GFirst (Government Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams) conference marshaled new deterrents and defenses against the rising level of cyberattacks, as industry executives forecast increases in the market for security products. This year's conference is being held June 25-29 at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando, FL. More than 550 people from about 70 organizations attended the conference. Greg Garcia, the Department of Homeland Security's



(DHS) assistant secretary for cybersecurity and communications, said his organization had received more than 21,000 reports of cyber incidents through May during this fiscal year, in contrast to about 24,000 during all of 2006. He highlighted the importance of the sector-specific infrastructure protection plans that DHS released in May. Adding operational content to those plans is a major department goal for the rest of this year and beyond, he added. Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article103099-06-27-07-Web>

38. *June 26, eWeek* — **Security appliances sitting ducks for known bug.** The all-in-one device many businesses think is protecting their security likely has a hole as big as a Boeing, according to new research from Calyptix Security. Calyptix Security has discovered that CSRF (cross-site request forgery), a type of vulnerability that typically concerns large sites like Amazon.com, Google and Digg, also affects a vast array of the security devices that enterprises plunk down at the heart of their defense systems. Calyptix notified eight security vendors of the concern, said CEO Ben Yarbrough, but only one — Check Point Software Technologies — has responded by issuing an update to multiple versions of its vulnerable apps. Calyptix declined to release the names of the other seven vendors, but said those vendors provide widely deployed appliances. Calyptix classified the CSRF risk as medium, given that a successful attack requires knowledge of the URL that is used to manage a device.

Calyptix Security Advisory: <http://labs.calyptix.com/CX-2007-04.php>

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2151154.00.asp>

39. *June 26, U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team* — **US-CERT Technical Cyber Security Alert TA07-177A: MIT Kerberos Vulnerabilities.** The MIT Kerberos 5 implementation contains several vulnerabilities. Exploitation of these vulnerabilities could allow a remote, unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary code or cause a denial-of-service on a vulnerable system. Other products that use the RPC library provided with MIT Kerberos or other RPC libraries derived from SunRPC may also be affected. Impact: A remote, unauthenticated attacker may be able to execute arbitrary code on KDCs, systems running kadmind, and application servers that use the RPC library. An attacker could also cause a denial-of-service on any of these systems. These vulnerabilities could result in the compromise of both the KDC and an entire Kerberos realm. Solution: Check with your vendors for patches or updates. Alternatively, apply the appropriate source code patches referenced in MITKRB5-SA-2007-004 and MITKRB5-SA-2007-005 and recompile.

MITKRB5-SA-2007-004:

<http://web.mit.edu/kerberos/www/advisories/MITKRB5-SA-2007-004.txt>

MITKRB5-SA-2007-005:

<http://web.mit.edu/kerberos/www/advisories/MITKRB5-SA-2007-005.txt>

Source: <http://www.uscert.gov/cas/techalerts/TA07-177A.html>

40. *June 26, Security Focus* — **Study: Exploit Wednesday more myth than reality.** Several security researchers' and news articles' assertions that exploits for previously unknown vulnerabilities appear soon after Microsoft's regularly scheduled Patch Tuesday appear to have little basis in reality, according to an analysis of some 200 zero-day vulnerabilities by security firm McAfee. Defining a zero-day vulnerability as "the public availability of exploit information on the same day that a vulnerability is publicly disclosed," McAfee security researcher Craig Schumgar surveyed 200 zero-day flaws spanning the past three years and found little evidence that exploits are released on the day following Microsoft's Patch Tuesday.

"It's more likely that many attackers do not wait and (instead) simply release their threats as soon as they are ready to be released," Schmugar stated in the analysis. "The more time that passes, the greater the chance that the vulnerability will be disclosed and/or patched."

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/535>

## Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

41. *June 27, NWAnews (AR)* — **Pipe bomb explodes at Arkansas Christian Church.** A trash-bin fire on Monday, June 25, at the Bella Vista Christian Church started with a loud bang. "I think that's a bomb, or a car hit the building, " office manager Linda White said when she heard the explosion. She later discovered she was right about the bomb. A pipe bomb had exploded in the trash bin, according to a press release from the Bella Vista Police Department. Two other church employees, Gale Brashinger and Bill McGillen, were in the building when the bomb exploded, but no one was injured. Emergency personnel quickly evacuated the building, White said. Responding to the scene were the Bella Vista Fire Department, the Bella Vista Police Department, the Benton County Sheriff's Office, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the Springdale Bomb Squad. ATF responds to any incidents that occur on church grounds, explained Lt. John Scott of the Police Department.

Source: <http://www.nwanews.com/bcdr/News/50589/>

42. *June 26, Associated Press* — **FBI terrorism unit investigates Spokane mall-fumes incident.** A February incident in which noxious fumes were released in the region's largest shopping mall is being investigated by the FBI as a possible incident of domestic terrorism. The fumes prompted the evacuation of NorthTown Mall, and at least 36 people sought medical care. Spokane police forwarded the case to the FBI's Inland Northwest Joint Terrorism Task Force. Officials wouldn't say specifically why they believe terrorism might have been involved. Norman C. Brown, the FBI task force supervisor, said the incident "could be anything from a prank to an intentional act against a targeted store." Another possible objective may have been to test the emergency-response system, Brown said. The Inland Northwest Joint Terrorism Task Force investigates cases in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, including domestic and international terrorism. The task force is made up of federal, state and local law enforcement and is funded through the FBI's budget.

Source: [http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2003763264\\_w ebterror26m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2003763264_w ebterror26m.html)

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## General Sector

Nothing to report.

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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